/421 cont./

*511 [276] said, it is the best stimulant to counteract the effects of undernourishment.

There are three categories of "routine" expenses, those that we noted from day to day, which we still have to mention. They hold our attention less, because in a way they are obligatory. They are those relating to fuel, illumination, and the upkeep of clothing, laundry (Table XII).

[372] The most important one, in terms of the sums that it is necessary to devote to it, is fuel: wood and charcoal. It ordinarily represents 6 to 7% of the small incomes, then becomes smaller, decreasing as the income increases.

[354] By contrast, the percentage of the expenses devoted to illumination, much less important, does not show any great variation from one income to another, because there are various means of illumination, from the candle to the oil and electric lamps, not forgetting the battery lamp. The more modern the illumination is, the more onerous it becomes. It is modern to the degree that the incomes increase, just as a more comfortable dwelling, where there is a greater number of rooms to illuminate, corresponds to the increase in incomes.

As for the expenses devoted to the laundry of the family linen, they are proportional to the number of persons making up this family. Sometimes the portage expenses for the water, [271] which is also used in the kitchen, are added to them. Otherwise it would not be necessary to include the column "Water" in Table XII.

This concludes the survey of the principal routine expenses of our 43 families. For nearly half of them, totaling the percentages in proportion to the incomes obtained, we reach or exceed the figure 100. Nevertheless it is not enough to be fed and to have one's linen washed. Other expenses will have to figure, little or much, in the budget of these families. This is when the deficits are going to increase in very great proportions.

/189 cont./

351 there again the small one-room structures of wood or straw are an exception to the rule and are distributed at random over the concession.

Each owner or tenant likes very much to see his parcel clearly delimited, and the wall is the general rule. But its forms are very different, and this in one and the same parcel, ranging from the house itself or a high wall of durable material to a line of pickets running along a simple heap of rubble. In any case, the parcels that are not completely enclosed, with merely an opening on the street, are rare.

343 351 What else does one find within the parcel or in the structures serving as dwellings? Two things: a little hovel sheltering the Madagascan stove and serving as kitchen, and then, in a corner of the parcel, an enclosure surrounded by [783] secco, with a kettle containing the water needed for ablutions, which gives off a characteristic ammoniacal odor, yet not enough to inconvenience the inhabitants.

362 511 342 Let us complete this description with the table of the number of buildings, shown according to the number of rooms and the material used. /Table 24 appears here./

More than 50% of the wooden structures (113 out of 206) have only one or two rooms, that is, fall into the first category. Thus the whole habitat does not show a very high standard of living.

511 364 ●354 312 /190/ This is still more true if one now considers the equipment of the huts. 228 homes out of 258, nearly 90 %, have neither water, electricity, nor w.c. in the concession; 26 have electricity only; one has a w.c. without running water or electricity, one likewise has a w.c. plus electricity (in these two cases the w.c. consists of a septic pit dug into the sand in one corner of the parcel by the person concerned under the control of the Service d'hygiene). One has water and electricity. Ten per cent of the homes are thus lighted with electricity, and the remainder with kerosene, which is very few in a city where, except in the very last quarters, it is possible to have a meter installed in each parcel.

/190 cont./

511 Nevertheless, ingenuity and mutual helpfulness make up for
207 the poverty of the equipment, and if one comes across well over 10% of owners of radio sets, it is because in a number of cases the owner attaches his radio to the current which comes into the house of his immediate -- or distant -- neighbor.

364 A very serious inconvenience, as much from the point of
514 view of hygiene as from the point of view of comfort, results from the total absence of sanitary equipment. Without doubt, an enclosure on the parcel has its particular spot, but this little corner cannot serve everyone, and for those who are on the edge of the agglomeration it is the bush which serves as a comfort station; for the others whose parcel is located far from the outskirts it is the vacant land within Pikine. This state of affairs is unfortunate for many reasons: first of all, for a good many inhabitants it is a veritable expedition, in a word, to go to the toilet; one can imagine what this means for the old people or for the sick. Besides, it is unhealthy, and to get an idea of this it will suffice to go out one winter evening after a tornado and breathe this nauseous odor which the wind blows from the vacant land over the rest of the agglomeration (1).

[515] [653]

1. At the beginning of 1961 the public authorities undertook the construction of several groups of "showers" in 12 places. One can only wish for the extension of the anticipated program and its rapid completion.

511 In the districts, while all are not the owners of a
364 septic tank, the situation is better. Only 12% of the homes
●354 are counted as not having either water, electricity, or w.c.,
312 12% have electricity in addition to w.c. without a water line in the concession, 21% have water and electricity, and the remainder, some 34%, have complete modern equipment.

[331] It should also be noted that the Office de l'Habitat no longer builds structures without a septic tank in its subdivisions.